

1-9-2012

News - Gwinnett Public Library System

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Recommended Citation

Wallace, Casey (2012) "News - Gwinnett Public Library System," *Georgia Library Quarterly*: Vol. 49 : Iss. 1 , Article 17.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol49/iss1/17>

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Gwinnett County

The Friends of the Gwinnett County Public Library to Host An American Girl® Doll Tea Party Featuring an American Girl® Series Author Visit

Evelyn Coleman, the award winning author of several American Girl® Doll books including the *Addy* series mystery titled *Shadows on Society Hill* will join guests and their dolls at the Historic Strickland House, 2956 Buford Highway, in Duluth on February 26th from 2 to 4 p.m. This fundraiser benefits the Gwinnett County Public Library. The ticket price includes tea and pastries, a book discussion with the American Girl® book series author, an autographed copy of the American Girl® book *Shadows on Society Hill*, and a free tour of the Duluth Historical Society Museum. There will also be a raffle for American Girl® clothes, books, and other items.

Ms. Coleman's works have received an Edgar nomination for Best Juvenile Mystery, the Carter G. Woodson Award, and recognition from the Black and Latino caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Tickets for this fundraiser event are \$15.00, which include admission for one adult with one child, and additional guests are \$10.00 each. Seating is limited. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.friendsgcpl.org.

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Gwinnett Theatre Ballerinas Performed for Enthusiastic Crowd of 200 at the Gwinnett County Public Library

Library goers experienced a special appearance by performers of the Gwinnett Ballet Theatre in November. Jaime Robtison, artistic director of the theatre, and 16 young dancers came to the Five Forks branch in Lawrenceville, Ga., to perform five short selections from *The Nutcracker*. Performances included an abridged version of the *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*, as well as visits from the Snow Queen, Russian, Chinese, and Spanish dancers.

The dancing was followed by an enthusiastic question and answer session. The children in the audience were curious about how long the dancers had been studying ballet and expressed their interest in the dancers' costumes. About 200 customers, ranging from young children to senior citizens, attended the event. For more information about library programs, please visit www.gwinnettpl.org, or call (770)-978-5154.

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Gwinnett County Public Library's *Fall Into the Arts* Program Series Enjoyed by Almost 1,000 People

With a packed house, or more accurately a packed barn, the Gwinnett County Public Library concluded its annual Fall into the Arts (FITA) season at the Suwanee Music Barn on Saturday, Oct. 29. Carrying on

this 47-year tradition of Bluegrass music, more than 260 fans enjoyed the sounds of live music by the Everett Family Band and other local musicians such as Lisa & Randy and Friends, and Counterpoint.

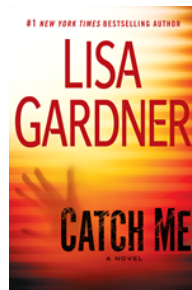
Executive Director Nancy Stanbery-Kellam explains, "This wrap-up to a successful FITA season was a great example of Gwinnett's cultural riches that have been enjoyed for generations and need to be preserved as we continue to embrace what is new and expand our cultural tapestry."

The Suwanee Music Barn event was one of four programs hosted by the Gwinnett County Public Library. Each of the events, (the Meet the Artist Reception, Gray Area at the Aurora Theatre, the Gwinnett Reads author event featuring Siddhartha Mukherjee, and the Suwanee Music Barn), showcased local and/or timely works of either literary, performing, or visual artistic merit. The program series this year offered an opportunity for almost 1,000 Gwinnett residents to experience the arts through the generosity of community partners, including the Friends of the Library and the library.

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***New York Times* Bestselling Author Lisa Gardner Will Appear at the February 9th "Lunch & Listen" Series Luncheon**

On February 9th, 1-2 p.m., the Gwinnett County Public Library will host an upscale weekday luncheon with *New York Times* bestselling author of thirteen novels Lisa Gardner as she embarks on her national book tour to promote her newest novel, *Catch Me*.



Lisa's D. D. Warren detective novels include *The Neighbor*, *Hide*, and *Alone*. Her *FBI Profiler* novels include *Say Goodbye*, *Gone*, *The Killing Hour*, *The Next Accident* and *The Third Victim*. Two of her books were on the NYT Bestseller List at the same time in 2010, and a movie based on her novel *Hide* premiered on Turner Broadcasting's TNT network in December 2011.

Catch Me, Gardner's latest work, will be released the same week as the library's February 9th event. The author will read from the book, followed by a Q&A session, a lunch, and then an onsite book-signing session with the author. Proceeds from the luncheon will support the Gwinnett County Public Library systems author events and other popular literary programs.

The “Lunch & Listen” series is a new way to bring authors and readers together, providing the ultimate food for thought with a wide range of authors, from bestselling mystery writers, to award-winning regional novelists to nonfiction and cookbook authors.

Seating is limited and tickets can be purchased in advance for \$10 per person by calling 770-978-5154, visiting your local library branch, or ordering online at www.gwinnettpl.org. Tickets at the door will be \$12. Books will be available for purchase during the luncheon. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. The luncheon will take place at and in partnership with Garden Plaza at Lawrenceville, 230 Collins Industrial Way. For more information email: events@gwinnettpl.org.

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Georgia Gwinnett in Partnership with Gwinnett County Public Library present Lauren Willig, New York Times Bestselling Author of the Pink Carnation Series

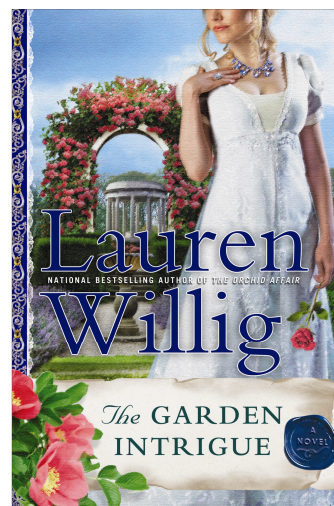


Lauren Willig, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Pink Carnation* series will appear at Georgia Gwinnett College on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012 as part of the Gwinnett County Public Library’s “Meet the Author” series. Fans are invited to celebrate the release of Lauren Willig’s ninth book in the series, *Garden Intrigue*, available in stores Feb. 16, 2012.

Lauren Willig, a Yale educated, Harvard graduate school and Harvard Law School graduate, is best known for the *New York Times* bestselling *Pink Carnation* series. Willig, who began a Ph.D. in English History, completed the first book in the series, *The Secret History of the Pink Carnation*, while working on her doctorate and received her first book contract during her first month of law school. She went on to complete the second and third installments of the series during her second and third years, but after a brief stint as a litigator at a large New York law firm, she gave up law in order to become a full-time author. Since then, her books have hit the *New York Times* list, been nominated for a Quill Award, featured regularly on the American Library Association’s annual “best of” list, and won the Booksellers’ Best, RITA, and Golden Leaf awards.

The reception for the author starts at 6 p.m., followed by a book chat and signing at 7 p.m.

The event will take place in the Student Center LVIS room at Georgia Gwinnett College and is free and open to the public. Books in the *Pink Carnation* series will be available for signing and purchase.



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Gwinnett County Public Library's "Meet the Author" Series Hosts Carolyn McKinstry, Survivor and Civil Rights Activist

The Gwinnett County Public Library is proud to host Carolyn McKinstry, survivor of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing on September 15th, 1963. A native of Birmingham, Alabama and a lifelong member of the church, Carolyn McKinstry was present when Klan members bombed the church, killing four of her young friends. The bombing, which shook the community as well as the nation, was a defining experience for McKinstry, and began her life as a civil rights activist. Her book, *While the World Watched: a Birmingham bombing survivor comes of age during the civil rights movement*, offers a rare, personal account of the Civil Rights movement as it progressed both nationwide and within her life. McKinstry will be speaking about her book at the Suwanee branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library on January 26th, 2012, at 6 p.m.

McKinstry has shared her experiences with the History and Discovery Channels, The Faith & Politics Institute, The U.S. States Memorial Holocaust Museum, The First Center of Nashville, CNN, BBC, MSNBC, Life Magazine, The Oprah Winfrey Show, national and local Public Radio, and numerous other organizations and academic institutions. Recent invitations include international appearances in India and Italy. She has also been a consultant and participant in the Spike Lee HBO Documentary *Four Little Girls*, the Hallmark television movie *Sins of the Father*, the documentary *We Shall Not Be Moved*, and the HBO Grammy winning *Children's March*.

This event is part of the "Meet the Author" program hosted by the Gwinnett County Public Library. "Meet the Author" is an ongoing series that makes beloved, influential, and dynamic authors accessible to Gwinnett County residents. The McKinstry event is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

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Computer Access and Holds Pick-Up Available During Gwinnett County Public Library's Five Forks Branch Efficiency Upgrade

Lawrenceville, GA— January, 2012

Beginning in early winter, library customers will have computer access and a Holds Pick-Up service, (for reserved items only), at the Five Forks branch location of the Gwinnett County Public Library while the building is under construction. Upon approval by the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners a long awaited construction project will update the library branch building. The efficiency upgrade, to be completed in two phases, is expected to take up to 7 months.

During the first phase of the renovation, customers will be able to pick up only requested items at the side of the Five Forks branch building while construction is completed in the front of the building. The lobby restrooms and the meeting room will be renovated during this time, and the building will be closed to the public. Library staff will be on site to check-out requested items to customers. This service is only available "curbside" and will be moved to the front of the building during the second phase of construction.

During the second phase of construction, hold services will be available in the newly renovated meeting room. Computer services and library staff assistance will continue to be offered in the adjacent trailers provided by the Gwinnett County Public School system until the completion of the project.